UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

841 Chestnut Building Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

SUBJECT:

Notification of Federal Natural

DATE: 10/6/92

Resources Trustees

FROM:

Peter Schaul, Chief

Superfund Pennsylvania Remedial Branch (3HW20)

TO:

Donald Henne, Regional Environmental Officer

DOI Mid Atlantic Region

200 Chestnut Street, Room 217

Philadelphia, PA 19106

NOAA Coastal Resources Coordinator

Office of Superfund, Region III (3HW02)

841 Chestnut Building Philadelphia, PA 19107

In accordance with the requirements of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986 and in particular, Section 104(b)(2) and Section 122(j), we are hereby providing you with formal notification of the following:

- (1) We have determined from ongoing assessments or investigations that potential damages to natural resources may result from releases under investigation at the subject site (Section 104(b)(2) of SARA.) We encourage you to become involved in the review of the Record of Decision (ROD).
- (2) We intend to initiate negotiations with potentially responsible parties at the subject site for the purpose of providing them with an opportunity to conduct or finance the Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) activities, at the site. You are encouraged to participate in the upcoming negotiations at the site as you deem appropriate. (Section 122(j) of SARA.)
- (3) We would like you to determine your position on a Covenant Not to Sue for Natural Resource Damages for the subject site. We have attached the appropriate background information to this form.

You should be aware that the projected critical dates surrounding these activities are as follows:

Projected ROD completion date: December 31, 1992 Special Notice Letter Mailing: January 3, 1993 and Start of Negotiations: March 5, 1993 SJ0 1017112

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Because of these deadlines, it is important that you contact the EPA Remedial Project Manager for the subject site, Steven J. Donohue, at (215) 597-3166 regarding the activities identified above by the following date: December 31, 1992.

COVENANT NOT TO SUE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Site Identification

Saegertown Industrial Area Site, Saegertown, Crawford

CERCLIS Number: PAD 980692487

2. EPA Contacts

Technical: Steven J. Donohue

(215) 597-3166

Legal: Maria Parisi Vickers, Esq.

(215) 597-9387

3. Site Description and Relevant History

The Saegertown Industrial Area Site encompasses several properties on an approximately 100 acre industrial park in the Borough of Saegertown, Crawford County, Pennsylvania. In April 1980, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources discovered that the Borough of Saegertown's municipal water supply well number 2 was contaminated with TCE at a level of 310 ppb. The Borough removed Well #2 from service, but continued to pump the well to waste in an attempt to flush the contaminants from the groundwater. The Borough hired a consultant to investigate the potential sources of the contamination. Deteriorating barrels containing sludge were found in test pits dug in the vicinity of a pond in an industrial park east of the Borough's Well 2. This property had been utilized by GATX Corporation for a railcar cleanout facility.

EPA performed a Site Inspection of the Saegertown Industrial Area Site in 1984. On June 16, 1988, the Saegertown Industrial Area Site was proposed for listing on the National Priority List ("NPL") of Superfund Sites. Several current and former companies that occupied the industrial park were identified as potential sources of contamination.

In late 1989; four companies signed an Administrative Order on Consent ("Order") with EPA. Under the terms of the Order, General American Transportation Corporation, Lord Corporation, Spectrum Control, Incorporated, and the Saegertown Manufacturing Corporation agreed to conduct an Remedial Investigation /Feasibility Study on the Site. On February 21, 1990, the Site was listed on the NPL.

The purpose of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) is to characterize the extent of contamination at the site, quantify risks to human health, and evaluate petential environmental risks and remedial alternatives. Site characterization included sampling and analysis of surface and

subsurface soil, ground water, surface water and sediment. A baseline risk assessment was conducted as part of the investigation and included quantification of risks to human health. An evaluation of remedial alternatives is presented in the Feasibility Study portion of the RI/FS report.

Major findings include the following:

- Sludge and soil contaminated with volatile and semi-volatile compounds in the former GATX pond area, lagoon/sludge bed areas,
- LORD Corporation groundwater aquifer contaminated with volatile organic compounds.
- 4. Response Category (Circle one)
 - Federal Enforcement Lead
 State Enforcement Lead
 - Unclassified

- Federal Fund Lead
- "Federal Facility
- 5. Current Status of Site (Circle one)
 - Proposed or Listed on NPL
 - RI/FS Work Plan
 - RI/FS Completed)

- Record of Decision
- RD/RA
- 6. Actual or Anticipated Date of ROD: December 31, 1992
- 7. List Operable Units

EPA plans to issue one ROD for an operable unit at the Site that will address the source material present on the former GATX property and the source area and groundwater contamination present on the Lord Corporation property.

8. On-Going or Planned Negotiations

Special Notice Letters inviting responsible parties to submit a good faith offer to perform the remedy selected in the ROD will be mailed by EPA shortly after the signing of the ROD. Negotiations will commence after receipt of an acceptable good faith offer.

cc: Steven J. Donohue, Central Pennsylvania Section (3HW24)
Kirsten Erickson, Attorney Advisor, NOAA
Jill Fallon, Acting Assoc. Solicitor, DOI